

**MEETING SUMMARY REPORT**  
**MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY – GLENDALE BRANCH**  
**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA**

**March 24, 2005**

**REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT FAIRNESS HEARING**

<b>Total attendance:</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Congressional attendance:</b>	<b>03</b>
<b>RegFair Board in attendance:</b>	<b>02</b>
<b>SBA personnel:</b>	<b>07</b>
<b>Agencies attending:</b>	<b>05 (IRS; Dept. of Labor; EPA; USDA/FSIS; Dept. of Labor/OFCCP)</b>
<b>No. of comments:</b>	<b>08</b>

**SMALL BUSINESS  
ORGANIZATION**

**POINT OF CONTACT**

**MEMBERSHIP**

Community Bankers Assoc of Indiana	S. Joe Dehaven	112
Indianapolis Black Chamber of Commerce	Charles B. Montgomery, Sr.	100
West Central Indiana SBDC	Tara Lane	250
Indiana SBDC	Debbie Trocha	19,000
Central Indiana SBDC	Gina Woods	1,375
Indiana University	Latricia Chandler	50,000
Central Indiana Women's Business Center	Sharon O'Donoghue	400
National Assoc. Women Business Owners	Billie Dragoo	140
National Federation Independent Businesses	Jason Shelley	600,000

Indianapolis Urban Enterprise Assoc.	John Gootes	200
Indiana Builders Assoc.	Rick Wajda	5500
<b>Total Represented</b>		<b>677,077</b>

## **TESTIFIERS:**

### **1. Rick Wajda, Executive Vice President for Governmental Affairs, Indiana Builders Association (IBA)**

- (a) Regulations in the housing industry that raise the cost of construction, such as requiring small projects to provide the same documentation as large projects, slow the construction process and raise the cost of housing to the home buyer or apartment renter. IBA recommends that HUD implement a viable, small multifamily project program under Multifamily Accelerated Processing to speed processing times and reduces excessive documentation requirements.
- (b) There need to be modifications to the current rules for use of vouchers in Assisted Living Facilities to ensure that low-income seniors can live in such facilities.
- (c) Preservation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Housing Service (RHS) Section 515 properties has been hampered by lack of oversight of management practices, burdensome requirements for property sales and/or transfers, and inadequate funds for repairs and rehabilitation. IBA recommends that RHS establish a uniform system for monitoring Section 515 property management companies.
- (d) There are inconsistencies with enforcement of EPA's Nation Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. Federal, state, and local program authority need to be consolidated into one entity so there will be less overlap and more consistency.
- (e) The wetlands permitting program under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which is jointly administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the EPA causes an extremely heavy regulatory burden on small businesses, such as the automatic regulation of ditches.
- (f) The U.S Fish and Wildlife Service have regularly and improperly included huge swaths of historic, potential, and unoccupied habitat areas within the "critical" habitat designation. The Service also failed to provide either the public or the regulated community access to data relied on as the basis for their critical habitat designation.

### **2. Leon Bates, President and Owner of Electrical Mechanical Services, Inc., Indianapolis, Indiana**

He testified as to problems he had with the Disadvantaged Business Entity (DBE) certification process and the State of Indiana.

3. **Curt Churchman, Vice President of Marketing, Worldwide Filters**

He testified as to problems Worldwide Filters is encountering in marketing to various federal entities and agencies, such as Camp Atterbury, Crane Naval Base, and the Defense Logistics Agency.

4. **Richard “Bud” Beesley, Vice President, Jennings County Growers Co-op**

He testified as to a problem with USDA regarding its requirement for a nutrition fact sheet on raw vegetables to sell to local school systems. He said the rules do not require this nutrient fact sheet on raw vegetables. Someone on the federal level has misread the rules and caused false information to be given to the state departments of education.

5. **Willie Billingslea, Jr., President, Budget Janitorial & Lawn Care, LLC**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers changed its payment method from credit card payments to invoicing. The Corps continued its plan to re-advertise contracts, some of which were just awarded to his company. When he told the Corps his company was accepted into the 8(a) program, the Corps told him it would not do 8(a) set aside. The Corps awarded him only a portion of his contracts. Mr. Billingslea wants to know why he is being penalized for going into the 8(a) program when he has competitively bid on every contract he has.

6. **Wanda Williams, President, Williams Cylinders & Controls, Inc. and Director, Women Impacting Public Policy**

She first of all praised the Indiana District office in helping her company get and keep 8(a) contracts.

She needs help with the State of Indiana. She’s certified as a woman-owned business, a disadvantaged business, and an 8(a) company. The State of Indiana will not give her a small disadvantaged business certification which would bring her more business with the state.

7. **Timothy Aiden, President, Affordable Housing of Indianapolis, LLC**

He said his company is just four months old and minority-owned. He praised the Indiana District Office in a smooth and efficient loan approval process.

8. **Ron Steele, retired federal civil service employee**

After small disadvantaged businesses get contracts, they fail to meet the stringent government regulations. He said there is very little monitoring or follow up by SBA to make sure that sub contractors meet their goals. He suggested SBA fine prime contractors heavily for hiring subcontractors that don’t meet goals.